

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3018

To establish a Commission on Federal Criminal and Juvenile Justice
Assistance Programs.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 14, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred
to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To establish a Commission on Federal Criminal and Juvenile
Justice Assistance Programs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. ESTABLISHMENT.**

4 There is established a temporary commission to be
5 known as the Commission on Federal Criminal and Juve-
6 nile Justice Assistance Programs (in this Act referred to
7 as the “Commission”) for the purpose of conducting a
8 study under this Act regarding methods to help revitalize
9 and strengthen the Federal justice assistance programs
10 that are administered by the Department of Justice’s Of-

1 fice of Justice Programs, Office on Violence Against
2 Women, and Community Oriented Policing Services Office
3 (in this Act referred to as the “Justice Assistance Pro-
4 gram Offices”).

5 **SEC. 2. MEMBERSHIP.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall be com-
7 posed of 10 members, as follows:

8 (1) 2 members who have previously served as
9 appointees in the Office of Justice Programs under
10 Presidents from different political parties.

11 (2) 2 members who are current or former State
12 or local law enforcement officers.

13 (3) 4 members who are criminal justice practi-
14 tioners.

15 (4) 2 ex officio members who are current offi-
16 cers or employees of the Office of Justice Programs,
17 designated by the Attorney General, including at
18 least 1 career employee.

19 (b) APPOINTMENTS.—Of the members of the Com-
20 mission described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of sub-
21 section (a), an equal number shall be appointed by the
22 majority leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House
23 of Representatives, the minority leader of the Senate, and
24 the minority leader of the House of Representatives. The

1 appointments shall be made not later than 30 days of the
2 enactment of this Act.

3 (c) CHAIRMAN.—The majority leader of the Senate,
4 after consultation with the Speaker of the House of Rep-
5 resentatives, shall designate 1 of the members of the Com-
6 mission to serve as Chairman.

7 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

8 The Commission shall conduct a study that—

9 (1) identifies means to revitalize and strengthen
10 the Federal justice assistance programs in accord-
11 ance with principles of good government and effec-
12 tive management; and

13 (2) considers and recommends—

14 (A) ways to strengthen the justice assist-
15 ance programs' offices ability to provide cus-
16 tomer oriented service to State and local practi-
17 tioners;

18 (B) the need to make criminal justice re-
19 search accessible to criminal justice practi-
20 tioners;

21 (C) the best means to measure and report
22 the need for and impact of the Federal justice
23 assistance programs;

24 (D) the potential for overlap and duplica-
25 tion of Federal justice assistance programs;

1 (E) the best means to transition Federal
2 grantee recipients to sustainable independence;

3 (F) the organizational structure and au-
4 thorities of the Justice Assistance Program Of-
5 fices; and

6 (G) any other changes necessary to en-
7 hance the Justice Assistance Program Offices’
8 stewardship of Federal grant initiatives and im-
9 prove their customer service orientation.

10 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

11 Not later than 6 months after the enactment of this
12 Act, the Commission shall submit a report to the Congress
13 and the Attorney General containing the results of the
14 study under this Act, which shall include—

15 (1) a description of the challenges identified by
16 the Commission;

17 (2) the conclusions of the Commission regard-
18 ing each such challenge; and

19 (3) recommendations for legislative or adminis-
20 trative actions to implement the conclusions of the
21 Commission.

22 **SEC. 5. COMMISSION PERSONNEL MATTERS.**

23 (a) STAFF AND RESOURCES.—The Attorney General,
24 or designee, shall provide to the Commission such staff
25 and resources as the Attorney General, or designee, deter-

1 mines necessary for the Commission to perform its duty
2 efficiently and in accordance with this Act, which shall in-
3 clude not less than 2 staff members.

4 (b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—The members of the Com-
5 mission shall be allowed travel expenses, including per
6 diem in lieu of subsistence, at rates authorized for employ-
7 ees of agencies under subchapter I of chapter 57 of title
8 5, United States Code, while away from their homes or
9 regular places of business in the performance of services
10 for the Commission.

11 **SEC. 6. TERMINATION.**

12 The Commission shall terminate 30 days after the
13 submission of the report under section 4.

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